

3-27-1945

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With the Colors *Mar. 28, 1945*

Seamen Second Class James J. Lobmier and Harry J. Maginn, who are on the U. S. S. Idaho, write the Press from the Pacific:

"We have wanted to write you for quite some time, but as excuses are too numerous to mention, we won't bother to give any.

"Since our short nine day 'boot' leave, which was in December, we have moved around a bit. We were transferred from Great Lakes to Shoemaker, California, and then to Bremert and Washington, where we were assigned to the battle-ship the U. S. S. Idaho, known as the 'Mighty I'.

"Some of the incidents were, of course, sea-sickness, which is even worse than home-sickness. We were lucky enough to see Pearl Harbor, excepting that we did participate in the battle of Iwo Jima.

"We hope to be able to meet some of the other good old Jasper county boys out here."

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Shipfitter First Class Dorris McDowell writes his parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. V. McDowell of Newton, from the Southwest Pacific: "Censorship restrictions have been relaxed a little and we can tell of any port the ship was in prior to thirty days from now. I have been away from the states for twenty months, but haven't been in Pearl Harbor since the first of September.

"We were in on the preparation for invasion of the Gilbert islands; we landed the first troops on the Marshall islands; we took part in the invasion of Saipan and Tinian in the Marianas; and so far have taken part in the raids on the Philippines."

Private Lee Dickey writes his uncle, C. Logan Dickey of Willow Hill: "I'm feeling pretty good; only have a little cold. It's pretty fair weather here. This new outfit isn't bad. I get pretty tired at times, though, and the food isn't anything to brag about."

"Have you seen my big boy lately? Guess he is getting to be pretty big now. You should see me smoking this big cigar. One of my buddies got some and divided."

"How do you like the news from here? Pretty good, eh? Too many of these factory guys seem to think this damn war is over and they're striking and really letting up. This is evening and I'm tired."

*Mar. 27, * * * * * 1945*

Private First Class Kenneth L. Alexander, a son of Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Alexander of northeast of Newton, who graduated from an Aerial Electrical school at Chanute field Rantoul, left Saturday to report for duty at Clovis, New Mexico, after a seventeen day furlough with relatives and friends.

They have another son, Corporal Donald R. Alexander, who is in an Ordnance Depot company, somewhere in Germany, with the American Third army.

Private First Class and Mrs. John Delbert Wilson and son John Larry, who have been visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Wilson and his brother and sister-in-law Mr. and Mrs. Albert Wilson of Newton, went to Louisville, Sunday, where they will visit with her parents Mr. and Mrs. L. V. Dillman. Delbert will return to Camp Fannin, Texas, Wednesday.

Lieutenant and Mrs. Robert H. Rhue are the parents of an eight and three-quarters pound son, born Monday morning at the Decatur and Macon County hospital, Decatur. Mrs. Rhue is the former Elizabeth Batman and Mr. and Mrs. Charles G. Batman of Newton are grand-parents. Lieutenant Rhue is in the Navy, stationed at Chicago.

Warrant Officer Earl Jones, United States Coast Guard, was a visitor at Newton last week with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. V. A. Jones. He has been on convoy duty across the Atlantic for the past eighteen months. He spoke before the Boy Scouts at the last meeting, telling the boys the benefits he received from his scout training.

Pharmacist's Mate First Class and Mrs. Richard Tosi and little son Richard and her mother, Mrs. Milo E. Youngman of Springfield, were visitors in Newton, Friday. Mr. Tosi has been in the Southwest Pacific for the past two years.

Private First Class Tony Passalacqua is here on a visit with his wife, having been discharged from the Army after twelve months in the

Aleutian islands. He wears the Asiatic-Pacific campaign ribbon, with a bronze star added in lieu of a second ribbon.



Boatswain's Mate Second Class Duane E. Sims is spending a leave with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Fred M. Sims of Newton. He is on a Naval tug out of Key West, Florida.



Dewey Resch, who is in the Navy, is spending a leave at home.